

IN THE CLAIMS

Please find the claims to be in the form as follows:

1 (Previously presented): A method for transferring real time information, in particular audio information, the method comprising:

encoding consecutive segments of the real time information to compressed real time data in frames,

transmitting a signal carrying the compressed real time data,

receiving the signal and retrieving the compressed real time data,

storing the received compressed real time data in a playback buffer,

decoding the compressed real time data from the playback buffer,

determining, before transmitting, a buffer occupancy for at least one frame, which

buffer occupancy is indicative of an amount of compressed real time data to be present in the playback buffer at the start of decoding said frame,

transferring the buffer occupancy via the signal,

controlling the retrieving and/or the decoding in dependence on said transferred buffer occupancy.

2 (Previously presented): A signal carrying real time information, in particular audio information, which real time information is encoded to compressed real time data in frames relating to consecutive segments of the real time information, wherein the signal comprises a buffer occupancy for at least one frame, which buffer occupancy is indicative of an amount of compressed real time data to be present in a playback buffer at the start of decoding said frame.

3. (Previously presented) A method for recording audio information on a record carrier, the method comprising:

encoding consecutive segments of the audio information to compressed audio data in frames, and

recording the compressed audio data,

determining a buffer occupancy for at least one frame, which buffer occupancy is

indicative of an amount of compressed audio data to be present in a playback buffer at the start of decoding said frame, and recording the buffer occupancy on the record carrier.

4 (Previously presented): The method of recording as claimed in claim 3, wherein

the buffer occupancy is indicative of the amount of compressed audio data to be present in the playback buffer at the start of decoding said frame before the compressed audio data relating to said frame is removed from said buffer.

5 (Previously presented): The method of recording as claimed in claim 3, wherein

determining the buffer occupancy comprises the step of determining an amount of compressed audio data in a recording buffer before or after encoding said frame.

6 (Previously presented): A recording device for recording audio information on a record carrier, the device comprising:

a compression element that is configured to encode consecutive segments of the audio information to compressed audio data in frames, and a recording element that is configured to record the compressed audio data on the record carrier, the device comprises an occupancy determinator that is configured to determine a buffer occupancy for at least one frame, which buffer occupancy is indicative of an amount of compressed audio data to be present in a playback buffer at the start of decoding the frame, and the recording element is configured to record the buffer occupancy on the record carrier.

7 (Previously presented): The recording device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the device comprises a recording buffer, and the occupancy determinator is configured to determine the buffer occupancy in dependence on an amount of compressed audio data present in the recording buffer before or after encoding the frame.

8 (Previously presented): A record carrier carrying audio information, which audio information is encoded to compressed audio data in frames relating to consecutive segments

of the audio information, comprising a buffer occupancy for at least one frame, which buffer occupancy is indicative of an amount of compressed audio data to be present in a playback buffer at the start of decoding the frame.

9 (Previously presented): The record carrier as claimed in claim 8, wherein the buffer occupancy is indicative of the amount of compressed audio data to be present in the playback buffer at the start of decoding said frame before the compressed audio data relating to said frame is removed from the playback buffer.

10-11 (Canceled)

12 (Previously presented): A playback device for retrieving audio information from a record carrier as claimed in claim 5, which device comprises a reader that is configured to retrieve the compressed audio data from the record carrier, a playback buffer, and a de-compression element that is configured to decode frames of compressed audio data from the playback buffer to consecutive segments of the audio information, an occupancy reader that is configured to retrieve the buffer occupancy for at least one frame from the record carrier, and a controller that is configured to control at least one of the reader and the de-compression element in dependence on-said the retrieved buffer occupancy.

13 (Previously presented): Playback The playback device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the controller is configured to control the de-compression element to start decoding a frame when the amount of compressed audio data in the playback buffer substantially corresponds to the buffer occupancy.

14 (Canceled):

15 (Previously presented): The record carrier as claimed in claim 8, wherein

the record carrier comprises frame information for at least one frame, which frame information is located in a header area associated with said frame, and which frame information comprises the buffer occupancy.

16 (Previously presented): The record carrier as claimed in claim 9, wherein the record carrier comprises frame information for at least one frame, which frame information is located in a header area associated with said frame, and which frame information comprises the buffer occupancy.

17 (Previously presented): The record carrier as claimed in claim 8, wherein the record carrier comprises a pause area between two audio items, in which pause area a series of buffer occupancies is indicative for a change in transfer speed from a first transfer speed at the end of the preceding audio item to a second transfer speed at the start of the following audio item.

18 (Previously presented): The record carrier as claimed in claim 9, wherein the record carrier comprises a pause area between two audio items, in which pause area a series of buffer occupancies is indicative for a change in transfer speed from a first transfer speed at the end of the preceding audio item to a second transfer speed at the start of the following audio item.

19 (Previously presented): The record carrier as claimed in claim 15, wherein the record carrier comprises a pause area between two audio items, in which pause area a series of buffer occupancies is indicative for a change in transfer speed from a first transfer speed at the end of the preceding audio item to a second transfer speed at the start of the following audio item.

20 (Previously presented): The record carrier as claimed in claim 16, wherein the record carrier comprises a pause area between two audio items, in which pause area a series of buffer occupancies is indicative for a change in transfer speed from a first transfer speed at the end of the preceding audio item to a second transfer speed at the start

of the following audio item.

21 (Previously presented): Playback device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the controller is configured to control the reader to adapt a speed of retrieving the compressed audio data from the record carrier in dependence on a difference between the buffer occupancy and the actual amount of compressed audio data present in the playback buffer at the start of decoding the frame.

22 (Previously presented): Playback device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the controller is configured to control the reader to adapt a speed of retrieving the compressed audio data from the record carrier in dependence on a difference between the buffer occupancy and the actual amount of compressed audio data present in the playback buffer at the start of decoding the frame.